

#5908

Sean King

From: Sean King
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2009 2:01 PM
To: 'kaaren_hinck@kerry.senate.gov'
Cc: Kraig Siracuse; Elyse O'Brien; Chris D'Amato
Subject: RE: Taiwan questions for Susan Rice

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

FYI, Ms. Hinck, Question 5 in the Attachment I sent you (i.e. Taiwan's membership in world organizations) is the most important question. Thanks, Sean King

-----Original Message-----

From: Sean King
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2009 1:12 PM
To: 'kaaren_hinck@kerry.senate.gov'
Cc: Kraig Siracuse; Elyse O'Brien; Chris D'Amato
Subject: Taiwan questions for Susan Rice

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Ms. Hinck,

Senator Kerry just called back my boss, former Senator Alfonse D'Amato. As Senator D'Amato mentioned during their conversation, this firm (Park Strategies, LLC) he, and I are registered agents, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, on behalf of our client the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (Taiwan).

Senator Kerry offered to submit for the Record any or all of the attached questions for UN Perm Rep-designate Susan Rice. These questions were originally designed for Secretary of State-designate Clinton, but we missed that deadline. It was Senator Kerry's suggestion that we instead submit them for UN Perm Rep-designate Susan Rice. Thanks so much in advance.

Kindest regards,

Sean King
Vice President
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2009 FEB -6 PM 3:12
CRM/CES/REGISTRATION UNIT

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To: 'kaaren_hinck@kerry.senate.gov'
Cc: Kraig Siracuse; Elyse O'Brien; Chris D'Amato
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Attachments: Questions for Jan 13th hearing[1].doc

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1. Last September, the Department of State reissued its guidelines for official contact with representatives of Taiwan. Over the decades these guidelines have turned draconian to the extent that only minimal engagement occurs between Taiwan and U.S. officials at all levels and some rules are simply ridiculous. Under the guidelines, “meetings between USG officials and Taiwan authorities outside the U.S. must be held outside USG and Taiwan offices” according to an official State Department cable. Senior level military-to-military contacts are also prohibited. Many of these restrictions and their consequences are outlined in an report issued last year.

These restrictions dramatically hinder the ability of the U.S. to engage with Taiwan on critical economic and security issues in a region where the U.S. has considerable strategic interests.

Will the Administration take a look at these restrictions with the view of revising them to reflect today’s security and economic realities with regard to Taiwan (while adhering to the Taiwan Relations Act)?

2. The foundation for security and stability in the Taiwan Strait rests on Taiwan possessing a credible military force that can deter aggression. Taiwan is confronted with a dramatic, continuing increase in the capability of Chinese military forces—especially its ballistic and air forces.

President-Elect Obama welcomed the Bush administration approval to sell more than \$6 billion in advanced weapons to Taiwan and as he has stated **“I believe that the United States should strengthen channels of communication with officials of your government. We should continue to provide the arms necessary for Taiwan to deter possible aggression,”** in a letter to President Ma following his swearing-in.

Can you reaffirm President-Elect Obama remains committed to providing Taiwan with the arms necessary to protect itself consistent with our obligations in the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) and especially in light of what can be considered an increasing gap between China’s capabilities and Taiwan’s ability to defend itself? Also, I believe “strengthening channels of communication” is welcome and appropriate across many agencies, including at the senior military level. Would you agree with that?

Follow-Up Q:

Thank you and can you please keep me informed in writing on that?

3. On July 14, 1982, the U.S. issued the “Six Assurances” to clarify U.S. policy towards Taiwan. Several Asian policy experts have called for the U.S. to once again re-clarify U.S. policy towards Taiwan by reasserting the “Six Assurances.”

Would the Administration consider a re-declaration of the Six Assurances to once again clarify U.S. policy towards Taiwan?

4. During President Clinton's presidency many Cabinet officials visited Taiwan including two Secretaries of Transportation; Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson, and at the sub-cabinet level Phil Lader of the Small Business Administration.

One of the most effective means of building relationships and ties between Taiwan and U.S. officials is for personal meetings and briefings. The Administration has an opportunity with two new presidents—President-elect Obama here and President Ma in Taiwan—to build these relationships through visits by Cabinet members and senior political appointees. Conversely, visits by Taiwanese cabinet ministers and other senior officials here would be extremely beneficial to a wide-range of U.S. officials. This also fits in with President-Elect Obama's desire to broadly engage the world community. Would you agree that these visits make sense for Taiwan?

5. President Bush signed legislation that mandates the U.S. support Taiwan's observer status in the World Health Organization(WHO) and each year the Administration must report to Congress on steps taken to assist Taiwan in that effort. In an era where diseases such as SARS and Avian Influenza can travel the world at the speed of an international flight and tens of millions of lives could be at risk, a lack of participation by Taiwan in the WHO is a danger not only for Taiwan's population but our national security, and the world's, as well. Will you work with Taiwan and will the Administration be engaged with the U.N. and other stakeholders to assist Taiwan in gaining Observer Status within the WHO as well as aggressively support Taiwan's entry into other international bodies?

On 1/14/09 4:25 PM, "Sean King" <sking@parkstrategies.com> wrote:

Kraig,

I called the SFRC Minority staff, and asked them if the record was closed. They answered, "We're not submitting any more questions." They didn't say the record was closed per se, but I didn't want to push it further. AMD already placed his call to Sen. Kerry, but I don't think he's yet actually spoken with him.

Thanks,

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Kraig

----- Forwarded Message

From: Patrick Garvey <Patrick_Garvey@foreign.senate.gov>
Date: Wed, 14 Jan 2009 17:10:41 -0500
To: Kraig Siracuse <ksiracuse@parkstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Questions for Sen Clinton hearing for record

The record is closed. We are getting answers back already from follow up questions after the hearing. We asked 170 in advance of the hearing yesterday.

Let me to see if we can put some of them in for one of the deputies whose hearings should be next week? OR, the others who are following.

PG

-----Original Message-----

From: Kraig Siracuse [<mailto:ksiracuse@parkstrategies.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 4:44 PM
To: Garvey, Patrick (Foreign Relations)
Subject: FW: Questions for Sen Clinton hearing for record
Importance: High

Pat:

Great to see you yesterday. Good to hear you are staying. The job market for Republicans is VERY tough!!!

I wanted to get your advice. We were working with Senator Barasso's office to try to get some questions for the record (just submitted) on Taiwan (see attached). I think they are inclined to help, but were told the record is closed. Is that the case? If not, can we still get them in?

Alfonse is going to call Senator Lugar, but I thought I should ask you first!!

Thanks!
Kraig

--

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----- End of Forwarded Message

From: Kraig Siracuse [<mailto:ksiracuse@parkstrategies.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 5:29 PM
To: Garvey, Patrick (Foreign Relations)
Subject: Re: Questions for Sen Clinton hearing for record

Pat:

You are a rock star!!

Alfonse thought your idea was great, and he said to thank you for not having to ask Senator Lugar for this.

We would love to have the questions asked to the next nominee, or perhaps someone who is in charge of Asia?

I would ask your advice here. Either way, should I follow up with you or someone else?

Thanks again!!
Kraig

--

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On 1/14/09 5:10 PM, "Patrick Garvey" <Patrick_Garvey@foreign.senate.gov> wrote:

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Chris D'Amato

From: Chris D'Amato
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 4:13 PM
To: 'Antony_Blinken@foreign.senate.gov'
Subject: procedural question

Tony,
Congratulations to you on your boss' historic win. We are tremendously excited for you.
I'm not even sure if I can still reach you at this e-mail, but on the off chance that I could, I wanted to reach out to you concerning a matter related to Sen. Clinton's confirmation. We were hoping to have an opportunity to enter questions into the official record concerning the Senator's view regarding US Taiwan relations. As I'm sure you're aware, the subject did not come up during oral questioning at the committee yesterday.
We were under the impression that, traditionally, the record is held open for 3 days after the conclusion of the hearing and that written questions can be submitted for inclusion in the record.
However, we were told by Barasso's staff that this is not the case and that the record is closed.
I was wondering if you might be able to assist us in determining whether there is an opportunity to have questions included in the record.
Thanks in advance for your assistance on this and I hope to see you at the inauguration.
Best regards,
Chris.

Christopher D'Amato
Executive Vice President/Partner
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Sean King

From: Kraig Siracuse
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2009 6:40 AM
To: Sean King
Subject: FW: Questions for Sen Clinton hearing for record

From Pat...

----- Forwarded Message

From: Patrick Garvey <Patrick_Garvey@foreign.senate.gov>
Date: Wed, 14 Jan 2009 17:42:26 -0500
To: Kraig Siracuse <ksiracuse@parkstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Questions for Sen Clinton hearing for record

I'll let you know what we get in the deck for Jim Steinberg, the #2 for policy.

Sean King

From: Kraig Siracuse
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 4:48 PM
To: Sean King
Cc: Elyse O'Brien; Chris D'Amato; Dana Weisberg
Subject: Re: SFRC

Great!
Exactly what I needed to hear.
They will ad them
Will call after this call...

On 1/14/09 4:25 PM, "Sean King" <sking@parkstrategies.com> wrote:

Kraig,

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Sean King

From: Elyse O'Brien
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 2:46 PM
To: Sean King
Subject: FW: Questions for the record

----- Forwarded Message

From: "Moncecchi, Mariah (Barrasso)" <Mariah.Moncecchi@Barrasso.senate.gov>
Date: Wed, 14 Jan 2009 14:19:17 -0500
To: Kraig Siracuse <ksiracuse@parkstrategies.com>
Subject: RE: Questions for the record

Kraig,

Unfortunately the deadline for submitting questions for the record to the SFRC has past. However, I will keep your questions on file should the Committee address the U.S.-Taiwan relationship in the future.

Sincerely,

Mariah Moncecchi
Legislative Aide
U.S. Senator John Barrasso (R-WY)

From: Kraig Siracuse [<mailto:ksiracuse@parkstrategies.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 12:39 PM
To: Moncecchi, Mariah (Barrasso)
Subject: Questions for the record
Importance: High

Mariah,

On Monday I dropped off some questions with Shawn Whitman for the record re: Taiwan and Hillary Clinton's nomination hearing. I understand that the Senator did not get a chance to ask any of the questions at the hearing. If you could kindly submit a couple or all for the record before the window expires we would be very appreciative.

Attached is a copy of the questions. Questions 3 and 5 are particularly important.

Thank you very much for your help!

Kraig

--

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Sean King

From: Elyse O'Brien
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2009 9:52 AM
To: Sean King
Cc: Kraig Siracuse
Subject: Questions for Barrasso

Sean,
We spoke to Barrasso's CoS this morning and they would be happy to ask some questions for the record re: Taiwan and Hillary Clinton's nomination hearing. We are going up to the Hill today and plan on dropping of the questions. Please forward me the most up to date version of the questions at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,
Elyse

1. Last September, the Department of State reissued its guidelines for official contact with representatives of Taiwan. Over the decades these guidelines have turned draconian to the extent that only minimal engagement occurs between Taiwan and U.S. officials at all levels and some rules are simply ridiculous. Under the guidelines, “meetings between USG officials and Taiwan authorities outside the U.S. must be held outside USG and Taiwan offices” according to an official State Department cable. Senior level military-to-military contacts are also prohibited. Many of these restrictions and their consequences are outlined in an report issued last year.

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